

on his shoulders that he must be a man of great integrity, great character, respectability and knowledge.

**Rama Varmha Tampuran.**—I may just inform the House that only those head-clerks who have passed the necessary departmental test examinations are appointed to act as Registrars.

**Mr. Joseph Pettah.**—Even for such Head clerks "possessing all the necessary qualifications you give only 25—40. The head clerks have to act for the Registrars and at the same time they draw only 25—40.

The poor finance has been brought forward and they say it would require six or seven thousand rupees. But calculating for the next year it comes to only Rs. 1440 or so. Of course when the maximum of the scale is reached the expenditure may go high; but for the next year I find that the additional amount required would be less than Rs. 1500. For these various reasons I find the position taken up by the Government is rather illogical and I therefore strongly support the resolution.

**Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Sir, the arguments for doing this bare justice to these 60 or 70 clerks have been sufficiently before the attention of the House and I do not think any further discussion is necessary. Therefore under Rule 25 (1) I move that the question may now be put.

**Mr. T.K. Nayar.**—I second it.

*Motion put and carried.*

*The resolution was put to the vote of the House and passed, all the non-official members present voting for the resolution.*

## 2. Remission of Land Tax.

**Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Sir, I move the resolution standing in my name.

*"This Council recommends to the Government to give a remission of at least 25 per cent of the land revenue this year."*

I am afraid I would be insulting the intelligence of this House, if I were, at this part of the day make a long speech to make out a case for my motion. In fact the Government has admitted the justice of my claim because it has already given us a remission of 12½ per cent this year. The House will be pleased to remember that the Government granted us a remission of 18½ per cent last year. They have reduced it to 12½ per cent this year. I would respectfully ask what are the reasons

for that. Are we in any way better of than last year? Can they honestly say that conditions have been changed for the better? Coming as I do from the country and with intimate knowledge of its affairs I would respectfully submit to the House that we are getting worse. If that position is admitted there will be no justification for the Government in not giving us a little more remission. It might be asked why I ask for 25 per cent? It is not because that it will meet the ends of justice. I deliberately made this modest request so that it may be acceptable to the Government. When we consider that the fall in prices of the articles we produce, which is the basis of this resolution, is 50 per cent a remission of 25 per cent in the land revenue will not be too much.

The only ground on which the Government can oppose the resolution is probably on the ground of finance. I would respectfully point out that there are various items of expenditure from which they can find savings to meet this 12½ per cent. I would point out to them that there will be a saving of 3 to 4 lakhs of rupees which we spent last year on account of the Viceregal visits, H. H. the Maharajas' tour, etc. I understand that the customs revenue has increased to some extent and the income from the Income Tax has also increased. I would also submit that it will be possible for the Government to make some savings by effecting retrenchment in the pay of officers. I shall deal with this subject in detail when I come to my resolution on this subject. In view of all these facts I submit that the Government can very easily give us a further remission of 12½ per cent more this year. With these observations I commend the resolution for the acceptance of the House.

**Mr. A. Eachara Menon.**—I second it.

**Dr. A. R. Menon.**—I now move that the House be adjourned.

**Mr. M. A. Chakko.**—I second it.

*Motion put and carried.*

### Concluding Remarks of the President.

**President.**—Hon'ble Members of the House, as usual I should like to take advantage of the privilege of the presiding authority to say a few words before proroguing the House.

In the first place, I have to thank all the Hon'ble Members for the kind help and support that they have given me in the discharge of my rather difficult and delicate duty in this session. You will remember that during this session there has